

THE
YORK GUIDE:

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION

OF THE

CATHEDRAL,

AND OTHER

PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN THAT CITY.

TO WHICH IS ADDED

A List of the Fairs held in
the said City; the Banks;
Principal Inns; Times of
the Posts coming in and
going out; Mail and

other Coaches; Rates of
Chairmen and Coach-
men, as settled by Act
of Parliament; List of
Carriers, &c.

THE SECOND EDITION, WITH ADDITIONS.



YORK:

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AND COUNTY, 1796.

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THE
YORK GUIDE.

THE
First Object that attracts the Notice of Strangers is
THE CATHEDRAL,
COMMONLY CALLED
YORK MINSTER.

ABOUT the Year 625 Edwin the Great, being converted to Christianity by Paulinus, who had been consecrated Archbishop of York by Justus, Archbishop of Canterbury, caused a little Oratory of Wood to be built where the Church now stands, which was dedicated to St. Peter, wherein, on the 12th of April, 627, 108 Years after the Coming of the Saxons into Britain, the King and his two Sons, Osfrid and Edfrid, were baptized. By the Bishop's Directions he there began to build a magnificent Fabric of Stone, inclosing this Oratory, which still served for solemnizing Divine Offices till the other was finished. The Building went on very fast, but scarcely were the walls got so far as to be fit for roofing, when the Royal Founder was slain in a Battle with Caedwell, King of Wales, at Hethfeld, now called Hatfield Chace, in Yorkshire.

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In this Manner the Church lay neglected for some Time, till Oswald, Successor to Edwin, about the Year 632 compleated the Building; but scarcely was it brought to Perfection, when Oswald was likewise slain in Battle by Penda, the Pagan King of Mercia, and his new-erected Structure was nearly demolished.

In this ruinous Condition did Alfrid find it on his being made Archbishop in the Year 669; but he restored it to its former Grandeur, and thus it stood 400 Years, during which Time we have no Record of any Addition or Improvement being made, except that a noble Library was bestowed upon it by Archbishop Egbert, about the Year 740.

In the Year 1069 the Northumbrians, aided by the Danes, seeking to throw off the Norman Yoke, the Garrisons in the Castle, fearing lest the Houses in the Suburbs might serve the Enemy to fill up the Ditches, set fire to them, which, spreading farther than was intended, burnt down great Part of the City, and with it the Cathedral and its most valuable Library fell in almost one common Ruin.

The ancient Fabric thus destroyed, the Canons were expelled from their Stalls, and the Revenues of the Church seized by the Conqueror; but after some Time, having made Thomas, his Chaplain and Treasurer, Archbishop of this Province, he restored the Temporalities to him. This Prelate took Possession of the Diocese in the Year 1070, and rebuilt the Church with more than its former Magnificence, in which State it remained till the Year 1137, when, on the 4th of June, a casual Fire, which began in the City, burnt down the Cathedral again, and with it St. Mary's Abbey and 39 Parish Churches.

The Church now lay in Ashes until Archbishop Roger, the famous Opponent of Becket, Anno 1171, began

began to rebuild the Choir, with its Vaults, and lived to perfect them.

So much for the ancient History of the Cathedral. What follows relates to the Fabric that is now standing.

Walter Grey, who succeeded Roger in the Archbishopric, built the South Part of the Cross Aisle, or Transept, in the Year 1227.

John Le Romain, Treasurer of the Church, built the North Part of the same Transept in the Year 1260—he added also a Steeple, which was afterwards exchanged for that now remaining.

John Le Romain, Archbishop, and Son to the Treasurer, laid the Foundation of the great Nave in the Year 1291.

William de Melton, Archbishop, finished the Nave with its two Towers about the Year 1330.

John Thoresby, Archbishop, took down the Choir that had been built by Archbishop Roger, and laid the first Stone of the present Choir in the Year 1361. He contributed 1670*l.* to the Work, and finished it about the Year 1370.

Walter Skirlaw, Bishop of Durham, formerly a Prebendary of York, built the present Steeple in the Year 1370.

The Dimensions of the whole Pile at present, which is in the Form of a Cross, extending from East to West, are as follow :

	<i>Feet</i>
The whole Length, from East to West, is	524½
Breadth of the East End	105
Breadth of the West End	109
Length of the Cross Aisle from North to South	222
Height of the Lanthorn Steeple to the Vault	188
Height of it to the Top of the Leads	213
Height of the Body of the Church	99
Breadth of the Side Aisles, North and South	18
A 2	Height

Height of the Side Arches, North and South . . .	42
From the West End to the Choir Door	261
Length of the Choir from the Steps ascending to the Door, to the present Communion-Table } . . .	157 $\frac{1}{2}$
Breadth of the Choir	46 $\frac{1}{2}$
From the Choir Door to the East End	222
Height of the East Window	75
The Breadth of it	32
Height of the Chapter-House	67
The Diameter of it	63
Length of the Library	34
The Breadth of it	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
Length of the Treasury	30
The Breadth of it	20 $\frac{1}{4}$
Length of the Inner Vestry	30
The Breadth of it	23
Length of the Vestry	44 $\frac{1}{8}$
The Breadth of it	22 $\frac{1}{8}$
Height of the Screen that divides the Choir from the Nave } . . .	24

We shall next take an external View of the whole Building.

The West End contains two uniform Steeples, diminishing as they ascend in ten several Contractions, all cloistered for Imagery, with which it was probably once adorned. On the Top of the great Door sits the Figure of Archbishop William de Melton, the principal Founder of this Part of the Church; and below, on the Sides of the double Doors, are the Figures of Robert le Vavasour, who gave the Use of his Quarry at Tadcaster for the Masonry of the Fabric, and Robert de Percy, who gave his Wood at Bolton, for roofing the new Building.

The North and South Sides of the Nave are divided in the Length into eight equal and uniform Parts, each containing a Window between two
Buttresses

Buttresses which support the lateral Aisles; from these again spring flying Buttresses, sustaining the more elevated Walls of the great middle Aisle, and between every two of these a Window, corresponding in its Stile with those below, appears.

In the South Tower did hang a Ring of 12 Bells, which, in the Year 1765, were exchanged by the present Dean, Dr. John Fountayne, for a Sett of 10 new Bells, which is allowed to be as complete as any in the Kingdom.

The Entrance of the South Transept is ascended to by ten Steps. Over the Door is placed a handsome Dial, both horary and solar.—The Windows throughout the whole Church are best observed from within.

Eastward stands the Choir of the Cathedral, and in the End of this, over the most magnificent Window in the World, sits Archbishop Melton, mitred and robed, in his Archiepiscopal Chair, having in his Left Hand the Representation of a Church, and seeming to point to this Window with his Right. At the Basis of this noble Light are 13 Heads placed on a Row in the Wall from Angle to Angle: They are designed to represent the Heads of our Saviour and his twelve Apostles, himself in the Midst of them. The Statues of Percy and Vavasour armed, with their Shields hanging by them, are also seen at this End.

We shall now enter the Church. The new Pavement, which is a Kind of Mosaic Work, deserves our Attention here. The Plan was drawn by Mr. Kent, under the Direction of Lord Burlington. This noble Design was begun by Subscription from the Nobility, Clergy, and Gentry, of the County, set on Foot and completed in the Year 1736, by the Care and Management of Dr. Osbaldeston, then

Dean. The expence amounted to upwards of 2500 l.

For the Chantries and Altars dedicated to particular Saints, which were dispersed in several Parts of this Church, we must refer our Readers to the first Volume of *the Historical Description of the Cathedral Church of York*.

In the Year 1753 the two Chapels next the Clock were fitted up for early Prayers, which now begin at Seven o'Clock. Formerly they were performed in the Choir at Six o'Clock. In one of these Chapels, viz. that nearest the Clock, the Dean and Chapter's Court is held.

The Choir is separated from the rest of the Church by a most magnificent and beautiful Screen, the Front of which is divided into Niches, in which the Effigies of our Kings, from the Conquest to Henry VI. are placed. The Statue of this last Monarch was certainly taken down, in Compliment to his Enemy and Successor Edward IV. by the Archbishop's Orders then in being; for the common People bore so high a Veneration for this sanctified King, that they began to pay Adoration to his Statue. The Cell remained empty till the Reign of James I. at whose first Coming to the City the Dean and Chapter thought fit to fill up the Vacancy with his Figure. In the Midst of this Skreen is placed the Door into the Choir, which, together with the Passage, is curiously wrought. Over this Door the Organ is placed.

The Service-Choir is still adorned with its ancient carved Wood-Work; here are the Stalls for the Dignitaries of the Church, beginning with the Dean's on the Right, and the Precentor's on the Left-Hand, each being assigned to its particular Owner by a written Label over it. The Arch-

bishop's

bishop's Throne is situated at the End of the Prebendal Stalls on the South Side, opposite to the Pulpit. In 1740 the old Throne and Pulpit were both taken down, and those now standing erected in their Room. In Winter, from All-Saints to Candlemas, the Choir is illuminated, at Evening-Service, by several large Branches, besides a small Wax Candle fixed at every other Stall.

The Ascent from the Body of the Church thro' the Choir to the Communion Table is by a Gradation of 15 Steps. The Screen here, which is a Piece of magnificent Gothic Architecture, is 49 Feet long, and 28 Feet high. It consists of eight Gothic Arches, filled up with beautiful Tracery in the Manner of Windows, with Piers and Pinnacles between: These support an ornamented Battlement. All the open Work is now glazed with Plate Glass. By the Curious this is esteemed one of the greatest Beauties of the Church.

The Length of the Nave, from the West Entrance to the Tower in the Centre of the Church, is divided into eight equal Arches, corresponding with the Windows already mentioned. The Columns or Piers, upon which the two first are cast, support also great Part of the Weight of the two West Steeples; and also a most curious Arch that entirely crosses the whole middle Aisle. The Arms of the principal Benefactors to the Fabric are placed in the Pargets of the other Arches. On the Top of these runs an open Gallery on both Sides of the Nave, and over this is the upper Tire of painted Windows of this middle Aisle.

The Roof of the Nave is Wood, the Ribs of which compose a curious Tracery, adorned with large carved Knots, which have been gilded, and are in the Nature of Key-Stones to support the Work.

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The Ceiling of the Roof having, in the Year 1795, been ordered by the Dean and Chapter to undergo a complete Repair, many Pieces of curious Workmanship have been discovered, which, on Account of their great Distance from the Ground, were nearly hid from the public Eye. These, together with many other elegant Ornaments in the same Church, have been faithfully delineated by that eminent Artist, Mr. Joseph Halspenny, of York, and are now publishing in Numbers.

The great Window at the West End of the Church is a very noble Light, though not equal in Size to its opposite. The Tracery, which is ramified, is probably the most beautiful in the World. The Figures of the eight first Archbishops and eight Saints of the Church are painted in this Window in full Size.

The Choir of the Church has nine Arches, with Arms, Galleries, Windows, and wooden Roof as before. In the upper Tire of Windows are the Figures of those Kings, Bishops, and Noblemen who were Benefactors to this Part of the Building, with their Arms underneath, all in their Robes, with most glorious Colours. The Side Aisles of both the Nave and Choir are arched with Stone, the Windows of them wonderfully preserved: Those reach almost to the Roof of the Church, and are divided into 108 Partitions, each of which represents a Piece of Monkish History. But

What may be justly called the Wonder of the World, both for Masonry and Glazing, is the East Window. It is near the Height and Breadth of the middle Choir. The upper Part is a Piece of admirable Tracery, below which are 117 Partitions, representing so much of Holy Writ, that it almost takes in the whole History of the Bible. It is traversed

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versed by a Gallery about nine Feet below the Spring of the great Arch.

The South Part of the Transept or Cross Aisle was built by Walter Grey, and is the oldest Part of the whole Fabric. The Architecture of both Ends of this Aisle differs from any of the rest. It is raised upon round Stone and Marble Pillars, alternately running up by Clusters to the flowered Chapiters, whereon are turned the Arches of the little Side Aisles.

The South End of the Church is enlightened by six Windows, that at the Top being most remarkable; it is a fine piece of Masonry in the Form of a Wheel, or, as Mr. Torre writes, a Marygold, from whence it is called the Marygold Window, its coloured Glass representing that Flower. The first Window over the Clock-House is adorned with a large Image of St. William, habited in Pontificalibus. The second Window consists of two Lights, and hath at the Top of both a small Image of an old King sitting in Azure Robes, placed in a Triangle to the Sun and Moon on each Side below. Without Doubt this Figure is designed to represent God. On one Side is a large Image of St. Peter, and on the other that of St. Paul, with their Insignia underneath them; in the last is the Figure of St. Wilfrid. Underneath, and on each Side of the Clock, are four Figures, viz. Abraham, King Solomon, Moses, and St. Peter, which are as large as Life, and, with the Ornaments, are each 15 Feet high; all of which were painted by the late ingenious Mr. W. Peckitt, of York.

The North End of the Building is beautified with five noble Lights, which constitute one large Window, and reach almost from Top to Bottom. There is a Tradition that five Maiden Sisters were at the
Expence

Expenſe of theſe Lights. The painted Glaſs, re-
preſenting a Kind of Embroidery or Needle-Work,
might perhaps give Occaſion for this Story.

The great Tower, or Lanthorn Steeple, as it is
commonly called, is founded on four great Pillars,
each compoſed of Cluſters of round Columns. Over
the four great Arches, caſt on theſe Pillars, are
placed eight Coats of Arms. On the Weſt, the
Arms of England, the Fleur de Lis diſtinguiſhed,
and Edward the Confefſor's. On the Eaſt, the Pal-
lium, or the ancient Bearing of the See of York and
St. Wilfrid. On the North, the Arms aſſigned to
two Saxon Kings, Edwin, and Edmund the Martyr.
And on the South, the particular Arms of the
Church, and thoſe of Walter Skirlaw, the great
Benefactor. The Arms of England ſhew that this
Steeple was not finiſhed till the Reign of Henry V.
or VI. who were the firſt that altered the French
Bearing. The Windows are eight in Number, two
on a Side. The Roof is adorned with Tracery,
archwiſe, with wooden Beams, gilded and knotted.
The Centre Knot, which is the largeſt, repreſents
two Images of St. Peter and St. Paul.

We ſhall now give a brief Account of ſome of
the principal Monuments, but as the Inſcriptions
on them, and other Inſcriptions without Monu-
ments, would prove too large for this Work, we
muſt refer our Readers to the firſt Volume of *the
Historical Description of the Cathedral Church of York*,
where they are given, with the Tranſlation of ſuch
as are in Latin,

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MONUMENTS.

In the East Aisle of the South Transept.

Archbishop SEWAL's is a Table Tomb, with the Figure of a flowery Cross upon it, supported by 12 short Pillars with Gothic Arches.

Archbishop WALTER GREY's Tomb has eight Gothic Pillars, about eight Feet high, with antique Arches, supported by a very antique Gothic Canopy, adorned with Heads and Pinnacles, having the Bishop's Effigy at full Length, with his Crozier lying at the Bottom Part.

In the North Cross Aisle.

Archbishop GREENFIELD's is a Grand Piece of Gothic Architecture, enriched with Tracery, Arches, Buttresses, and Pinnacles.

In the North Aisle of the Nave.

Archbishop ROGER's is a Gothic Tomb; the Pedestal Part is about two Feet high from the Floor, adorned with Mouldings and Tracery; over it is a flat Gothic Arch, adorned with a Pinnacle and Foliage.

In the North Aisle of the Choir.

Prince WILLIAM de HATFIELD, second Son of Edward III. an Alabaster Figure in Ducal Robes, laid at full Length, with a Lion couchant at his Feet.

HENRY

HENRY BELLASSIS's is of ancient Architecture, decorated with Coats of Arms, and small Figures in the Posture of praying.

Archbishop SAVAGE's is a solid Table Tomb, with a mitred Figure laid at full Length with his Crozier; it is decorated with Coats of Arms and Gothic Mouldings. This is very elegant.

Dr. SWINBURNE's is Part Gothic and Part modern Architecture, decorated with Coats of Arms, small Figures, and Angels, with the Doctor's Figure in the Posture of praying, under the Arch. This Gentleman was the Author of the well-known Treatise on Wills.

Sir WILLIAM INGRAM's is a small antique Compartment, decorated with Figures, Coats of Arms, &c.

The Right Hon. CHARLES HOWARD's, Earl of Carlisle, is a modern Marble Monument, within a rich Iron Pallisade against the Wall, composed of two Pilasters, a circular Pediment, &c. adorned with Cherubims, Coats of Arms, a Bust, and Urns.

Admiral MEDLEY's is a white veined Marble Monument, with a Bust, Arms, Devices, and Trophies or Insignia.

Sir THOMAS DAVENPORT's is a pyramidical Monument highly finished; at the Bottom are introduced the Arms on a Shield, with a Branch of Cypress on one Side, and a Laurel Branch on the other, tied with a Knot of Ribbon. On the Centre is placed the Inscription; on each Side a Pilaster, decorated with dropping Festoons of Oak and Myrtle, above which is placed an elegant Urn. The Pedestal is of Dove Marble, on which is an Ivy Branch. The Ground is a beautiful variegated Marble.

Dr. DEALTRY's is a Figure of Health in Alto Relievo, with her ancient Insignia, bending over an Urn, and dropping a Chaplet.

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WILLIAM PEARSON's, LL. D. is a neat plain Monument against the Wall, with his Coat of Arms on the Top.

Mrs. PENELOPE GIBSON's is a neat oval Compartment, adorned with Cherubims, &c.

SAMUEL TERRICK's, M. A. is a neat modern Monument against the Wall, with his Coat of Arms on the Top Part, which is elegantly executed.

Mrs. PULLEYN's is a pyramidical Monument; at the Bottom are elegant Festoons of Oak, above which is the Inscription. On each Side are placed, on a Ground of Dove Marble, dropping Festoons of Lillies; above is an elegant Urn, on the Pedestal of which are placed the Arms, decorated on each Side with Cypress; the outward Ground is of a beautiful variegated Marble elegantly finished.

RICHARD WHARTON's. On the Inscription Tablet stands an antique Sarcophagus, on which is his Coat of Arms, all of white Marble, with a black Ground of black Marble.

JOHN FARR ABBOT's is a square Tablet of white, surrounded with black Marble.

Miss ELEANOR SWINBURNE, on a white Marble Vase, E. S. with black Marble as a back Ground.

Sir GEORGE SAVILE's. On a very rich Pedestal stands the Portrait of Sir George in full Length, resting on a Column, with a Scroll in his Hand, on which is the Petition of the Freeholders of the County of York. The Whole is executed in white Marble, with a pyramidical Ground of Dove Marble. The Inscription on the Pedestal bears Testimony of the great Respect the County paid to the Virtues of Sir George Savile.

In the East End of the Choir.

Archbishop STERNE's is of Marble in the modern Taste, erected within an Iron Pallisade. Upon

the Pedestal Part a mitred Figure lies reclined, with his Head upon his Hand, and upon the two external Angles of the Pedestals are two winged little Boys weeping. Over the Figure is an Architrave, Frize, and Cornice, adorned with Drapery and Festoons; over that is a semicircular Cornice, and his Coat of Arms.

The Countess of CUMBERLAND's is a Table Tomb, supported by four swelling Vases.

Archbishop SCROPE's is a Gothic Tomb, about three Feet high, and eight Feet long; the Front Gothic Tracery, and Shields with Gothic Mouldings. He was beheaded in the Reign of Henry IV.

Archbishop FREWEN's is a large Structure, about 20 Feet high and 10 broad, of the Corinthian Order. Upon the Pedestal Part lies a Figure at full Length, and the Whole decorated with small Figures, Books, Coats of Arms, &c.

Archbishop MATHEWS's is of ancient Architecture; the first or Bottom Part is supported by four Columns, with three small Figures between them. Upon the Cornice lies a Figure at full Length, and above that are two more Columns supporting a Kind of Pediment, with Hour-Glasses, Coats of Arms, &c.

Mrs. MATHEWS's is a very neat one. In a Nich between two Columns the Figure of a Woman at Prayer; also two more Figures standing by the Columns, in a devout Posture, adorned with Angels, Coats of Arms, &c.

Archbishop SHARP's is a stately Marble Structure of the Corinthian Order, with revealed Pilasters, encircled by Iron Pallisades. Upon the Pedestal Part, a mitred Figure lies reclined upon its Right-Arm, with a Book in its Left, decorated with winged Boys, Urns, &c.

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Archbishop BOWET's is a fine Gothic Monument, consisting of a flat Gothic Arch, decorated with lofty Pinnacles, the Whole about 30 Feet high. This noble Tomb is going to Ruin thro' Neglect.

Dean LANGTON's is a Table Tomb, with Saxon Characters, lately removed and placed under the Arch of the last-mentioned Monument.

Dean FINCH's is erected upon a large circular Marble Pedestal, adorned with two fine Busts, one of the Dean, the other of the Honourable and Reverend Edward Finch. Upon the Top is a Scroll Pediment, with the Finch's Arms in the Opening.

Mrs. RAYNE's is a square Compartment, decorated with two small Columns, a Pediment, &c.

LIONEL INGRAM's is a square Compartment, with small Columns, &c.

RICHARD STERNE's. On a Pyramidical Dove Marble Ground is a Tablet with an Inscription, on which stands a Vase of white Marble.

Mrs. MARY THORNHILL's, and her Daughters ANN and MARY. On a Sarcophagus stands a Pyramid of Sciana Marble, terminated by a Vase of white Marble, from which is suspended, by a Festoon of Husks, a Shield, on which is the Coat of Arms.

Mrs. ANNE THOMPSON's. On a Tablet of white Marble is the Inscription; over which is placed a Pedestal, with a Vase in white Marble; below is the Coat of Arms, in a Festoon of Drapery: the Whole on a pyramidical Ground of Dove Marble.

PELSANT REEVES, who fell at the Battle of Toulon, 30th Nov. 1793. The Inscription on an oval Compartment; on each Side Military Insignia; above, a Wreath of Laurel; below, the Coat of Arms in a Mantle: the Whole of white Marble, on a large Ground of Dove Marble.

In the South Aisle of the Choir.

The Hon. Mr. WENTWORTH's Monument stands upon a plain Marble Pedestal, upon which is erected another Pedestal, whereon stands, to the Right-Hand, a fine Figure in a Roman Habit, leaning with his Left-Arm upon an Urn. On the other Hand, upon the same Pedestal, sits a beautiful Figure of a Woman, reclining her Head upon the Right-Hand, with her Elbow on another Pedestal; the Back of all being a Pyramid, with a Coat of Arms upon the Point.

Archbishop PIERS's is a square Compartment, with two Columns, and an Entablature of ancient Architecture, decorated with Coats of Arms, &c.

The Earl of STRAFFORD's is a grand Marble one of the Corinthian Order. Betwixt the Columns, in a double Nich, stands the Figures of a Man and a Woman with an Urn between them; over the Niches, in a circular Pediment, are the Wentworth's Arms, cut in Marble; over each Column stands a Vase or Urn; and upon the Pedestal, by each Column, stands a weeping Boy.

Mrs. ANNE BENNET's is an antique Compartment, decorated with Cherubs.

G. W. ANDERSON's is a Compartment, consisting of an oval Inscription Table, with a Serpent twisted round, an Emblem of Eternity; above are Festoons of Drapery. The Whole is placed on a Ground of Dove Marble.

Archbishop LAMPLUGH's is a modern one, within an Iron Pallisade, having a mitred Figure upon the Pedestal Part; on each Hand revealed Pilasters, a Cove Cornice, with two weeping Boys thereon, and his Coat of Arms, a semicircular Pediment, with an Urn upon the Top, &c.

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Archbishop DOLBEN's is a modern Marble Monument, within an Iron Pallisade, with a mitred Figure reclining on a Pedestal, over which is a Group of Cherubs, a low Cornice, Coat of Arms, and an Urn, supported by Pilasters, with Festoons.

Archbishop HUTTON's is an antique Architectural one, with a Figure lying at full Length upon the Pedestal Part, and three Figures kneeling below in three Arches, decorated on the Top with Coats of Arms.

Sir WILLIAM GEE's is a very antique Architectural Monument. Upon the Pedestal Part are six small Figures in the Posture of praying; above are three large Figures kneeling in separate Arches, decorated with Bells, Books, Coat of Arms, Cherubims, &c.

NICHOLAS WANTON's is a very antique Piece of Architecture, with a Figure in the Posture of praying.

WILLIAM PALMER's is a small square Compartment.

The CHAPTER HOUSE

Is an Octagon Building of 63 Feet Diameter, the Height of it to the Middle Knot of the Roof is 67 Feet 10 Inches, unsupported by any Pillar, and entirely dependent upon one Pin or Plug geometrically placed in the Centre: the Outside is, however, strongly supported by eight Buttresses. The Room is surrounded by the Canons Seats, which are all arched, the Arches being supported by small Pillars of Sussex Marble, which separate the Stalls. Over these runs a Gallery, so exquisitely carved, and formerly so richly gilt and painted, as to be above

Description. The Capitals have a rich Variety of carved Fancies upon them; each Square of the Octagon has a noble light Window, adorned with the Representations of Saints, Kings, Bishops, Coats of Arms, &c. Over the Entrance were placed the Images of the 12 Apostles, with that of the Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus. Tradition assures us that these were all of solid Silver, double gilt; the Apostles were about a Foot high, but that of the Virgin must have been about two Feet, as appears by the Marks where they stood. It is difficult to ascertain the Time of erecting this magnificent Structure, the remaining Records of the Church bearing no Account of it; but in the Stile of its Architecture it corresponds with that Part of the Fabric begun and finished by Walter Grey.

The VESTRY,

Which joins to the South Side of the Church, is next intitled to Notice. It has a Council-Room and Treasury contiguous to it. The Council-Room, or Inner Vestry, where his Grace of York robes himself when he comes to his Cathedral, is a convenient Place, rendered warm and commodious for the Clergy to adjourn to from the Chapter House in cold Weather. In it are kept such Acts and Registers of the Church as they shall want more immediately to consult on these Occasions, together with the following Curiosities: A Canopy of State of Gold Tissue, and two small Coronets of Silver gilt, which were given by the City for the Honour of King James I. at his Coming out of Scotland to this Place in his Progress to London. A Cope of plain white-Sattin, the only one left us out of the large

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large Inventory of this Church's Ornaments. The famous Horn, if we may so call it, made of an Elephant's Tooth, which indeed is the greatest Piece of Antiquity the Church can exhibit. By this Horn the Church holds several Lands, which are still called *de Terra Ulphi*. Before the Reformation it was handsomely adorned with Gold, and hung by a Chain of the same Metal. These Ornaments were the Occasion of its being taken away at that Time, but, stripped of its golden Ornaments, it was returned by Henry Lord Fairfax; where his Father got it during the Civil Wars is uncertain. The Chapter thought fit to decorate it a-new, and to bestow the following Inscription on it, to the Memory of the Restorer.

CORNV. HOC, VLPHVS, IN OCCIDENTALI PARTE
DEIRAE PRINCEPS, VNA CVM OMNIBUS TERRIS
ET REDDITIBVS SVIS OLIM DONAVIT.

AMISSVM VEL ABREPTVM

HENRICVS DOM. FAIRFAX DEMVM RESTITVIT.
DED. ET CAPIT. DE NOVO ORNAVIT
A. D. MDCLXXV.

[This Horn, *Ulphus*, Prince of the Western Parts of Deira, originally gave to the Church of St. Peter's, York, together with all his Lands and Revenues. Henry Lord Fairfax at last restored it, when it had been lost, or conveyed away. The Dean and Chapter decorated it a-new A. D. 1675.]

There is also a Pastoral Staff of Silver, about seven Feet in Length, with a Virgin and a young Saviour in her Arms placed within the Bend of it, under which, on one Side, are engraven the Arms of Katherine of Portugal, Queen Dowager of England, who gave this Staff to one Smith a Confessor, nominated

minated to be the Popish Archbishop of York by King James II. in the Year 1687; but this Ensign of his Pastoral Office was wrested from him by a Party headed by the Earl of Danby, afterwards Duke of Leeds, when he was marching in a solemn Procession from the public Romish Chapel in the Manor, near St. Mary's Abbey, to the Cathedral of York, and afterwards deposited in the Hands of the Dean and Chapter.

In taking up the old Pavement, in 1736, the following Rings were found, which are still kept in the Vestry, and shewn by the Vergers among other Curiosities, viz. Archbishop Sewall's, who died in 1258, a plain Ruby set in Gold.—Archbishop Greenfield's, who died in 1315, a plain Ruby set in Gold.—Archbishop Bowet's, who died in 1423, a Composition set in Gold, with this Motto, *Honnor et Joy*.—Archbishop Neville's, who died 1476, a Sapphire set in Gold.—Archbishop Lee's, who died in 1544, Glass set in Copper gilt.

The LIBRARY

Is a Building adjoining the Church, being a Chamber of an oblong Square, over another Room formerly made Use of for the Singing School, but now for depositing Wills and other Deeds. Mrs. Mathews, Relict of Archbishop Mathews, founded the present Library, bestowing on it her Husband's Books to the Number of 3000 Volumes; it has since been augmented by several Bequests, and now contains a Body of Manuscripts, especially in the Ritual and Liturgical Way, equal to most Libraries in the Kingdom.

ASSEM-

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

The next Building deserving the Public's Notice is the Assembly Rooms, designed by Richard, late Earl of Burlington, to whose Memory the Foundation-Stone, a Part of which may be seen in the Cellar or Right-Hand of the Portico, bears a Plate with this Inscription :

IMP. GEORGIO AUG. II.

RICARDUS
COMES de BURLINGTON,
Hujus Urbis Præses,
Sæculi MÆCENAS,
Has Ædes
Erexit:

Quò Publici exhibeantur Ludi,
Quò Proceres undique confluant,
Quò Artes efflorescant Liberales,
Quò (dilatante Negotio) Gloria Pristina
Novo EBORACI Splendore
Obumbretur.

Ab Hoc Die Natali
CAROLINÆ
Regina Serenissimæ Nostræ
Mar. I. A... D..... MDCCXXX.
Stabit
Brigantùm EPOCHA.

At the Front is a Portico upon Columns of Stone. There is a Door and Stair-Case on each Side of this Entrance; both lead to the Top of the Leads, which are adorned with Rails and Ballusters, or down into the Cellars, which are neatly arched, and have Fire Places. The Vestibule, or grand Entrance, is 32 Feet

Feet long, 21 broad, and 21 high. To the Right and Left-Hand are Rooms, each 22 Feet long, and 18 broad.

The great Room is an antique Egyptian Hall from Palladio, 112 Feet in Length, in Breadth 40, and 40 in Height. The Room below is surrounded by 44 insulated Corinthian Columns, on which the Wall above is carried up; this again is adorned with Pilasters of the Composite Order, placed exactly over the Columns below, and between these are the Windows that light the Whole.

From the Top hang 13 Lustres of Glass, each carrying 18 Candles; that in the Centre is curiously carved, and was the Gift of the Right Hon. the Earl of Burlington. The Entrance is at the East-End.

Upon the Right-Hand is the Assembly Room used in common; the Length 66 Feet, 22 the Breadth, and 22 the Height; in the Ceiling is curious Fret-Work.

At the End of this is another Room 22 Feet square, used for Cards.

At the East End, near the Grand Entrance, is a circular Room, 22 Feet Diameter, with a Cupula, to the Top of which is 45 Feet. This is used only as a Vestibule.

Upon the Left-Hand is a Room 43 Feet long, 15 Feet broad, and 15 Feet high, made use of for Musical Rehearsals; beyond this are Closets, &c. and near it a spring of pleasant Water.

During the Winter Season are 12 Subscription-Concerts, which usually commence in November. Subscription-Tickets, not transferable, 1l. 1s. each. Nightly Tickets to Non-Subscribers 3s. each. A Concert and a Ball on the Wednesday and Friday Evenings, in the Spring Assize-Week, towards a Fund to carry on future Winter Concerts. A

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Ticket at the Assize Concert 6s. which admits the Bearer both Nights. There are four Benefit Concerts in the Season, viz. for the first Violin, the Hautboy Player, the Vocal Performer, and the Organist. Besides the above, there are Concerts and Balls during the Races. All these are under the Management and Direction of Mr. Hudson, the first Violin Performer. In these Rooms, in the Winter Season, there is an Assembly on Monday Nights.

For the purchasing the Ground and erecting this magnificent Structure, upwards of 5000l. were raised by Subscription, in Shares of 25l. or 50l. each, by the Nobility and Gentry of the City and County, and several other Parts of the Kingdom.

Without Bootham Bar, on the South-West Side, is a handsome Assembly Room, on a smaller Scale; and contiguous to it a beautiful Bowling-Green, which are much resorted to by the polite Circles in the Summer Season; during which there is an Assembly, by Subscription, every Monday and Friday Evening.

The THEATRE,

Erected in the Year 1770, and for which a Patent was granted by Authority of Parliament, is an elegant and spacious Building, on a Plan similar to those in London, and has every Requisite, both as to Ornament and Convenience. The Scenery and Dresses are equally superb with any in the Kingdom; and with respect to Performers, it may with Propriety be observed, that the Majority of those, whose theatrical Talents claim the Patronage of a London Audience, have trod this Stage, and in a great Measure matured their Abilities here.

It

It is open at York on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, from the Beginning of February to the Middle of May, and during the Summer-Assizes and August Race-Week. The Remainder of the Year the Company performs at Leeds, Wakefield, Pontefract, Doncaster, and Hull. The Prices of Tickets are, boxes 3s. pit 2s. galleries 1s. 6d. and 1s. except in the public Weeks, when an advance of 6d. is made on each Ticket.

MANSION HOUSE.

This Building, erected in the Year 1725, for the Residence of the Lord Mayor for the Time being, is constructed on a handsome and convenient Plan.

The Great Room, in which the Lord Mayor entertains the Corporation, is 49 Feet 6 Inches in Length, and 27 Feet 9 Inches in Breadth: It is adorned with several Full-length Portraits by the first Masters, among which we find the following: The Marquis of Rockingham, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; Lord Bingley, who served the Office of Lord Mayor in 1707; William III. George II. and several others. Over the Fire-Places are placed the Royal Arms and those of the City, richly carved and ornamented.

Behind the Mansion House, in the Common Hall, which is a noble Gothic Room, are the Courts of Justice, &c. with Chambers adjoining for the Grand and Petit Juries, one of which is called the Inner Room, where the Lord Mayor daily resorts to hear the Complaints of the Citizens.

The Court of the Lord President of the North was formerly held in this Hall. The Window over the Lord Mayor's Court is adorned with the City's Arms, Sword, Mace, and Cap of Maintenance;

also

also the Emblems of Justice and Mercy in fine painted Glass, the Work of the late Mr. Edmund Gyles of this City. The City Arms are also finely painted on one of the Windows of the South Side of this Hall; and in the Inner-Room is a beautiful Painting on Glass, of Justice in a triumphal Car, executed and presented to the Corporation by the late Mr. W. Peckitt, of this City.

At the East End is a wooden Table of the principal Benefactors to the Charity-Schools; and a Marble Tablet to the Memory of the late Alderman JAMES BARNARD, who bequeathed a Sum of Money towards flooring the Hall. There is also another Marble Table on the North Side of the Hall, in Memory of the late Sheriff NORFOLK, who left many good Charities.

The Hall itself is one of the finest Gothic Rooms in England; its Dimensions 96 Feet by 43.

The Mayor of York bears the Title of Lord, which Honour was bestowed on the Chief Magistrate of this City by King Richard II. That Monarch, after granting the Citizens a new and most extensive Charter of Privileges in 1389, at his Coming to the City that Year, took his Sword from his Side and gave it to William de Selby, then Mayor, to be borne before him and his Successors, with the Point erected, except in the King's Presence, within the Precincts of their Liberties, *in perpetuum*. This very Sword is still preserved and carried before the Lord Mayors of York on some principal Days. In 1393, the same King presented Robert Savage, then Lord Mayor, with a large gilt Mace, to be borne likewise before him and his Successors; as also a Cap of Maintenance to the Sword-Bearer.

OUSE BRIDGE.

On Ousebridge (which, as Mr. Camden remarks, is a noble one indeed, consisting of five Arches; the middlemost of which is 81 Feet, or 27 Yards wide from the first Spring of the Arch, and 17 Yards high, and was esteemed, formerly, one of the largest in Europe) stands the Great Council Chamber of the City, near which the Records were kept, till of late Years they, together with the Sheriffs' Court, which was also held here, were removed to the Guildhall afore-mentioned; however this Council Chamber, a very ancient and curious Building, is yet resorted to on some particular Occasions relative to the Affairs of the City. Adjoining is the Prison for Felons belonging to the City, and opposite is the Gaol for Debtors, which was built, as appears by an Inscription, at the equal Expence of the City and Ainsty in 1724.

YORK CASTLE.

This noble Building is situated near the Confluence of the Rivers Ouse and Foss. The Area is large and convenient for a Prison, the Walls being about 1100 Yards in Circumference, and the Prisoners having the Liberty of walking in it.

On the Right-Wing of this Area is a Prison for Debtors, which does Honour to the County. At the Top of a fine Flight of Stone Steps is a Floor on which are 11 Rooms, full 16 Feet square, and near 12 Feet high. Above them is the same Number of Rooms, one or two of which are assigned for Common-side Debtors, all of which are airy and healthy. On the Ground-Floor are the Gaoler's Apartments, &c. The

The Felons Court-Yard is down five Steps between the two Wings. The Day-Room for Men is 26 Feet by 8; in it are three Cells, and three in another. The Cells in general are about seven Feet and a Half by six and a Half, and eight and a Half high. There are four Condemned-Rooms about seven Feet square.

In the Left-Wing is a handsome Chapel, neatly adorned with suitable Furniture, to which belong a Chaplain and Lecturer; the Duty of the former is discharged by the Rev. Mr. Brown, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; and from Lady-Day to Michaelmas on Sunday. The yearly Salary from the County is 50*l*. The Office of Lecturer is discharged by the Rev. Mr. Richardson, who, with other Duty, delivers a Sermon every Thursday. The Salary left by Legacy is 25*l*.

Mr. Champney is Surgeon for Debtors and Felons, with a Salary of 40*l*.

On the West Side of the Area is the new County Hall, built likewise at the Expence of the County, and opened at the Summer Assizes 1777. It is a superb Building of the Ionic Order, 150 Feet in Length, and 45 Feet in Breadth. In the South End thereof is the Court for Trial of Prisoners, and in the North End is the Court of *Nisi Prius*. Each of these is 30 Feet Diameter, covered with a Dome 40 Feet in Height, which is supported by 12 Corinthian Columns; adjoining to which are proper Rooms for the Grand and Petit Juries, and other necessary Apartments.

The Entrance into this Building is by a *Loggio* of six Columns, 30 Feet in Height, over which are placed the King's Arms, an elegant Statue of Justice, and other Emblematical Figures. The Assizes are held twice a Year, viz. in Lent, and at Lammas.

On the East Side of the Area another elegant Building, opposite and similar to the middle Part of the new Courts of Justice, was completed in 1783. The Inside contains spacious Rooms for the Records and Clerk of the Indictments, Rooms for petty Offenders, Debtors, &c. a Woman's Apartment, Hospital-Rooms, and many other Conveniences much wanted before. In this Building are also Apartments for those under Sentence of Death.

The Women Felons are kept quite separate on the Left of the above Building. They have two Court-Yards, a Day and a Night Room. Their Condemned-Room is in another Part of the Gaol; near to which is a Room for the Confinement of Debtors who do not behave well. The Prisoners Allowance is as follows: Debtors, certified by their Parish, and Felons, have a Sixpenny Loaf each on Tuesday and Friday; Transports convicted at Quarter-Sessions have, besides the Bread Allowance, One Shilling a Week. Those convicted at Assizes have the King's Allowance of 2s. 6d. a Week.—The Place is well supplied with excellent Water.

At the Distance of about 77 Feet from the Castle-Gate, towards the City, are erected the City's Arms, at the Extent of their Liberties: Here the City's Sheriffs stand to receive the Judges of Assize, and conduct them to the Common-Hall when they come the Circuit.

CLIFFORD's TOWER.

Adjoining to the Castle is a high Mount, thrown up by prodigious Labour, on which stands a Tower, consisting of four Segments of Circles joined together, and called Clifford's Tower. This was built by

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by the Conqueror, and derived its Name from one of the Clifford Family who was made the first Governor of it. In the Time of Charles I. the City was ordered to be fortified, when, by the Direction of Henry, then Earl of Cumberland, Lord Lieutenant of the Northern Parts, and Governor of York, this Tower was accordingly repaired; a very small square Building was added to it on that Side next the Castle, on which over the Gate, in Stone Work, is placed the Royal Arms, and those of the Cliffords. On the Top of it was made a Platform, on which some Pieces of Cannon were mounted; two demi Culverins and a Saker, with a Garrison appointed to defend it. After the Surrender of the City to the Parliament's Generals, it was all dismantled of its Garrison, except this Tower, and the Government given to the Lord Mayor and his Successors till the Year 1683, when Sir John Reresby was made Governor by Charles II. In 1684, on the Festival of St. George, about Ten at Night, the Magazine took Fire, blew up, and the Tower was made a Shell of, as it continues at this Day. This venerable Pile, though a Ruin, is a very considerable Ornament to the City.

OLD BAILE.

In the South-East Corner of the City, exactly corresponding with Clifford's Tower, on the other Side of the River, is a Place of great but uncertain Antiquity: In the most ancient Deeds and Histories it is called VETUS BALLIUM, or OLD BAILE. It appears to have been the Platform of an ancient Castle. The Annals also shew that there was a Fortress here in the Time of the Saxons, when

King Athelstane besieged and blocked up the Danes. This Mount is the pleasantest Place for Prospect about the City.

NEW WALK.

This Walk, which is a fine gravelled Terras, between beautiful Hedges, and agreeably shaded with lofty Trees, is near a Mile in Length, all the Way running on the Bank of the River Ouse.—At convenient Distances are placed Chairs for the Accommodation of the Public.—About the Centre stood a beautiful Stone Bridge over the Foss, which, since that River was made navigable, has been taken down, and the present Wooden one erected in its Place. The utmost Attention is paid to its Order, and it is allowed to be equal to any public Walk in this Kingdom.

St. MARY's ABBEY.

This Ruin (formerly a noble and magnificent Monastery) is situated under the Walls without, and on the North Side of the City. At the Dissolution of Monastries by Henry VIII. that Prince ordered a Palace to be built out of its Ruins, called the King's Manor. It continued in that State to the Reign of James I. who converted it into a Regal Palace for his Residence, at his going to and coming from Scotland. Nearly in this State it stood till the Revolution, when a Lease was granted for vesting it in private Hands, in which it now remains.

In 1696 and 97 a Mint for Coinage was erected in this Manor; the Money coined bearing a Y under

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der the King's Head on the Coin. The present Condition of this once-magnificent Pile of Gothic Architecture is very deplorable, only a small Part remaining. What greatly contributed to its Destruction were Grants from the Crown, in the Reigns of King William, Queen Ann, and King George I. to pull down and carry away the Stone, for the Reparation of other public Buildings.

From the Manor Shore, on which this Abbey is situated, may be seen an Octagon Tower, unquestionably a Roman Structure.

The COUNTY HOSPITAL, or PUBLIC INFIRMARY,

Set on Foot in the Year 1740, extends a Front of 75 Feet in Length, and measures 90 Feet in Depth, inclosing a Court of 26 Feet 4 Inches by 35 Feet. The Whole consists of three Floors; the first of which is appropriated to the Officers necessary to the Hospital; the second is divided into two large Wards, one for Male and the other for Female Patients, each containing 16 Beds and to these are annexed Bed-Rooms for the respective Nurses; the third Floor consists of two Wards, one for Men and the other for Women, each containing 9 Beds, and Accommodations as before-mentioned for the Nurses, together with a Theatre, lighted from above, for the Performance of Surgical Operations. This Building, neatly but not superfluously ornamented, is every Way adapted to the humane Purpose for which it was raised. It is situated out of Monk-Bar, on the North-East Side of the City.

The

The LUNATIC ASYLUM

Is situated without Bootham-Bar, on the North-East Side, and is a handsome Structure, extending in Length 132 Feet, in Depth 52, and in Height consisting of three Stories. Of these, the lowest is a Rustic, from which four engaged Columns are carried up to the general Entablature, and sustain a Pediment in the Centre of the Front, which has a South-West Aspect. The Ends of the Front are finished as Pavilions, and have a Projection equal to that of the engaged central Columns already mentioned. Over the Centre of the Building rises an elegant cylindrical Bell-Tower, surrounded with engaged Columns, and finished with a small Cupola and Vane. The internal Plan is simple and convenient, consisting only of a Corradore, extending from End to End of the Building, and has on each Side of it, on the two upper Floors, Rooms very commodiously and securely finished for the Reception of Lunatics; and on the lower Floor, beside similar Rooms, is a Committee-Room, and Apartments for the Physician and Apothecary. Behind the Whole, in a separate Building, are the Kitchen, Wash-House, and other convenient Offices; above which are Apartments for 20 Patients more.

The York Lunatic Asylum was established in the Year 1777, by general Subscription, and had for its general Object the Cure and Relief of such insane Persons as were in low and narrow Circumstances. How well it has answered the intended Purpose, is sufficiently known in the extensive County in which it stands. Being an Establishment without a permanent Fund for its Support, the Patients, or their Friends, pay a weekly Sum suitable to their Abilities, by which Means the Indigent are relieved at the Expence of the Affluent.

In

In this Asylum the Patients are treated with all the Tenderness and Indulgence that is compatible with a steady and effectual Government, and the Servants are enjoined never to use unnecessary Severity. The strictest Economy is observed in the Management of the Family, and the utmost Attention is paid to Decency and Cleanliness.

At the first Opening of the Asylum there was no Distinction of Patients, and all paid Eight Shillings *per* Week for their Board and Medicines: But, after a few Years, it was found that this Sum was not well proportioned; as, under this Regulation, those who were in easy Circumstances paid too little, and those who were very poor, and had no Parish-Relief, paid too much. It was therefore ordered, for the more extensive Benefit of the Public, that a few Persons of better Condition should be admitted, on paying a weekly Sum, proportioned to their Circumstances: At the same time it was ordered, that the Overflowings of *their* weekly Payments should be applied in Aid of those Persons who were in narrow Circumstances, and paid for themselves. Under this charitable Regulation the Asylum continued for the Space of one Year, and the Success proved the Wisdom of the Measure: But it being represented by Dr. Hunter, the present Physician, that he was likely to be materially injured by this Regulation, however advantageous to the Asylum, as it obliged him to attend, *gratis*, those very Persons who would otherwise have been his own private Patients, it was ordered, "That the Physician should be allowed to take reasonable Fees from such affluent Patients." With this Alteration the Charity has flourished for some Years; and, unless disturbed, may continue to flourish to the Advantage of many Persons in low Circumstances, as well as to the Comfort and Satisfaction

faction of a few Sufferers in easy Circumstances,—who otherwise must have been driven into Private Madhouses, where their Fortunes and Health would have been at the Mercy of those who have little or no Feeling for the Miseries of others.

GRAND STAND *upon* KNAVESMIRE.

About a Mile distant from the City, towards the South, is the RACE-GROUND, commonly called Knavesmire, universally allowed to be one of the best Horse-Courses in England; on which, in the Year 1754, was erected, by Subscription, a Grand Stand. On the Ground Floor of this Building are convenient Offices and Rooms for the Entertainment of the Company; above which, on the second Floor, is a large Room for all the Company to meet in, which is surrounded by a Ballustrade Projection, upwards of 200 Feet in Length, and supported by a rustic Arcade 15 Feet high, from which the Company can command a Prospect of the whole Race-Ground. The Goal is a Stone Rotunda, lately erected near the Stand, for the Convenience of the Tryers, or Persons appointed to observe and decide in what order the Horses pass it. There are two Meetings every Year, viz. one in May and the other in August.

Having fulfilled our Design in describing such Objects in the City of York as are more particularly deserving the Attention of the Curious, it may not be improper to add that this City is in no Degree inferior to any other in respect of such Conveniences as are necessary in every Town. The Market-Places, of which there are two, are spacious, and in every Respect convenient, in each of which

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is a commodious Cross. The one, situate in a Street called the Pavement, is a square Fabric, (in the Neighbourhood of All-Saints Church, the Tower of whose Steeple is a light and most elegant Gothic Structure) ascended into by winding Stairs, and supported by 12 Pillars of the Ionic Order. The other is in 'Thursfday Market.

RE. In charitable Institutions the City of York is in no part excelled, a particular Attention being paid to the Infant-Poor. The Charity Schools, in one of which 75 Boys, in the other 40 Girls, are fed, cloathed, taught, and apprenticed, together with a considerable Number of Sunday-Schools, which have been some Time set on Foot on the most laudable Principles, are striking Characteristics of the Disposition of the Inhabitants.

York has not only to boast of the above excellent Charities, but likewise a Dispensary, for administering relief to the deceased Poor. In the Year 1788 the Gentlemen of the Faculty resident in York came to the Resolution of establishing a public Dispensary in that City, which is chiefly supported by annual Contributions, there being as yet only 250*l.* subscribed as a fund for its support.

We shall now proceed, in the last Place, to describe the Extent of the City, which is surrounded with Walls, made commodious for walking on for near a Mile, having an agreeable Prospect of both Town and Country; but in what Year, or under what Reign, they were erected is not easy to determine; it is highly probable, however, that Edward I. was their Founder.

The City is in Circumference two Miles and almost three Quarters; four principal Gates, or Bars, and five Posterns, compose the Entrances, viz. Micklegate Bar to the South-West, which is a truly noble

noble Entrance, and still bears Testimony of that Antiquity which few in the Kingdom can boast of. It is adorned with lofty Turrets, and handsomely embattled; over the Arch hangs a large Shield with the Arms of England and France painted and gilt; on each Side are two lesser with the Arms of the City on them. The Age of the present Structure is not ascertained, yet it is observable that the Fleur de Lys in the Royal Arms are not confined to the Number three, which puts it out of Doubt that they were placed there before the Time of Henry V.—Bootham Bar to the North-West, the Structure of which is very ancient, being almost wholly built of Grit, and is certainly Gothic, though built of Roman Materials, but wants that Symmetry so very conspicuous in the Arch of Micklegate Bar.—Monk Bar to the North-East, and Walmgate Bar to the South-East, are built in the same Manner as the others. Towards the Foundations are some large Blocks of Grit, but the Arches, &c. are modern. These Bars, together with five Posterns, viz. North-street, Skeldergate, Castlegate, Fishergate, and Latherthorpe Posterns, encircle the City of York, in which are the following Churches, &c.

All Saints, Pavement
 All Saints, North-street
 St. Crux
 St. Cuthbert
 St. Dennis
 St. Helen's
 St. John's
 St. Lawrence
 St. Martin's, Coney-street
 St. Michael-le-Belfrey
 St. Michael's, Spurrier-
 gate

St. Mary's, Castlegate
 St. Martin's, Micklegate
 Bishophill the Elder
 Bishophill the Younger
 St. Maurice
 St. Margaret's
 St. Olave's
 St. Saviour's
 St. Sampson's
 Christ Church
 Trinity, Goodramgate
 Trinity, Micklegate

All

All Saints Church, North-street, and St. Mary's, Castlegate, have each a handsome Spire, and St. Margaret's, Walmgate, has a very curious Saxon Portico.

The Number of Houses chargeable with House-Tax are computed at about 2574; the Number of Inhabitants may therefore be estimated at about 15,170.

IMPROVEMENTS.

THE City of York has been much improved within a few years past. The streets have been widened in many places, by taking down a number of old houses built in such a manner as almost to meet in the upper stories, by which the sun and air were nearly excluded in the streets and lower apartments. They have also been new-paved, additional drains made, and, by the present method of conducting the rain from the houses, are become much drier and cleaner than before. The corporation intend to apply for an act of parliament to empower them to widen the passage over Ouse-Bridge, it being rendered difficult by the great concourse of people continually passing. The erection of the locks, about four miles below the city, has been a great advantage to it; for, before this, the river was frequently very low, leaving quantities of sludge and dirt in the very heart of the city, also the filth and mud of the common sewers, which it was unable to wash away. The lock has effectually prevented this for the future, by the river being kept always high, broad, and spacious. In 1793, a subscription of 25,000*l.* was raised for rendering the Foss navigable: This river had, for many years, been a nuisance to the city; but, by this undertaking, it is not only made serviceable to the country through which it runs, but contributes to the salubrity as well as beauty of York.

In the above improvements, in others that are intended to take place, in the care and expence necessary to keep in repair the public walks about the city, the magistrates have exerted much spirit, and have added to the health as well as consulted the convenience of the inhabitants.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY.

YORK is governed by a lord mayor, a recorder, two city counsel, twelve aldermen, two sheriffs, twenty-four assistants, seventy-two common-councilmen, and six chamberlains.

The *Lord Mayor* is chosen annually from the number of aldermen, who are not impeded by age or sickness, or who have not been twice mayor, or borne that office within six years, and are thought to be every way qualified to undertake the duty. The office ceases annually on the 3d of February. The mayor of York assumes the title of *Lord* in all writing or speaking to him; this honour was bestowed on him by Richard II. It is a place of great trust and honour; and, if used to its full extent, he is very near an absolute governor within his district. Persons, of what quality soever, living or residing within the liberties, must obey his mandate or summons on any complaint exhibited against them. The judge of assize sits on his right-hand in the courts of justice, himself keeping the chair; neither does he drop the ensigns of his authority to any but the king himself, or the presumptive heir to the crown. At the sessions of peace he is supreme, being always a justice of the peace and one of the quorum. In council he has a casting voice; and in full senate no law nor act can be made without his concurrence.

The *Recorder* is, by virtue of his office, a justice of the peace and of the quorum. He sits at the lord mayor's right-hand as an assistant to him and the bench. He is chosen by the whole corporation, but must be approved of by his majesty before he can enter on his office. Besides the recorder, there are two other counsel assigned the lord mayor, called the *City Counsel*, who are also, in virtue of their offices, justices of the peace and of the quorum.

The *Aldermen* are chosen from the more respectable class of citizens, and that election is generally confined to those who have fined for, or served the office of sheriff: The fine for exemption from this office is generally

ally 200l. but when a citizen is chosen alderman, and refuses to stand, he is usually fined at the discretion of the court.

The *Sheriffs* are chosen annually on the 21st of September. They have a double function, ministerial and judicial. By the first they execute all processes and precepts of the courts of law, and make returns of the same; and by the next they have authority to hold several courts of a distinct nature. They collect all public profits, customs, and taxes of the city and county of same. They have the charge of all prisoners for debt or misdemeanors. They view and inspect all weights, measures, &c. visit the markets, ride the fairs, and are answerable to the king's exchequer for all issues and profits arising from the office.

Besides these are a number of citizens, who, having passed the office of sheriff, become part of the privy-council, and, with the lord mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs, compose the Upper House. They are called the *Twenty-four*, tho' they may be more or less than that number.

The last, though not least in authority, are a body of men drawn from the junior or middling class of citizens, in number 72, and called the *Common Council* of the city. They are chosen out of the four wards, viz. Micklegate Ward, Bootham Ward, Monk Ward, and Walmgate Ward. They are 18 in each ward, whose senior presides in his own, but have a foreman or speaker for the whole, who is elected annually. They represent the whole commonalty of the city.

The *Chamberlains* were formerly twelve, ten, or eight in number; but for several years past their number has been no more than six.

The *Town-Clerk* is elected in the same manner as the recorder, and must, like him, have the approbation of the king before he enters on his office, which is of great trust, as well as profit, in the gift of the corporation.

F A I R S.

THERE are a great many fairs kept yearly in York and the suburbs, to the great benefit, not only of the citizens,

tizens, but of the county in general. Three fairs are held without Bootham-Bar, within the suburbs, on the North side of the city, on a plot of ground called the Horse-fair, for all sorts of cattle, viz. on Whitfun-Monday, Old St. Peter's day, and Old Lammas day. At the latter fair, from three o'clock on the 11th of August, to the same hour on the 13th, the sheriffs' authority of arresting any person within the city and suburbs is suspended, the archbishop's bailiff or substitute having the only power of executing any judicial process at that time.

Palmfun Fair—Is always held on Thursday before Palm-Sunday, in the streets of Walmgate, Fossgate, Colliergate, and Pavement, for all sorts of cattle.

All-Souls' Fair—Is held in the above streets on the 13th of November yearly, for cattle.

Martinmas Fair.—This fair is always kept in the streets afore said, on the 22d of November annually. In the Pavement are held the statutes for hiring servants, of whom there is always great plenty.

Candlemas Fair—Is held as above, on the Thursday and Friday before Old Candlemas day, for all sorts of cattle.

St. Luke's Fair—Is held in Micklegate on Old St. Luke's day, for all sorts of small wares. It is commonly called *Dish Fair*, from the quantity of dishes, &c. brought to it.

Beside these, are two fairs for horses held on Monday in the August race-week, and Monday in the first whole week before Christmas. There are, likewise, fairs held every other Thursday for horned cattle, &c.

Line Fairs.—Saturday before Old Candlemas-day; Saturday before Old Lady-day; Whitfun Monday; Old St. Peter's day; Old Lammas-day; Saturday before Old Michaelmas; Saturday before Old Martinmas, and Saturday before Christmas-day.

Banks.—Crompton, Gray, and Eaton, in Newstreet; Garforth, Raper, Swann, Clough, and Swann, in Spurriergate; and Wilson, Smith, Hartley, Tweedy, and Oldfield, in High-Ousegate.

Principal

Principal Inns.—The Black-Swan, in Coneystreet, kept by Mr. Ambrose Batty; the George, in Coneystreet, by Mr. William Winn; Ringrose's Inn, (late Bluit's) in Blakestreet, by Mr. John Ringrose; and the York Tavern, by Mr. Francis Pulleyn.

Principal Inns for Travellers.—The Black Bull, in Thursday-Market, kept by Mr. John Bickers; the Elephant and Castle, in Skeldergate, by Mrs. Tamar Winfor; the Falcon, in Micklegate, by Mr. George Smithson; the George and Dragon, the bottom of Pavement, by Mr. Francis Elgin; the Golden Lion, in Thursday-Market, by Mr. John Seller; the Old Sand-hill, in Colliergate, by Mrs. Tabitha Cawood; the Red Lion, near Monk-Bar, by Mrs. Hannah Pearson; Robin Hood, in Castlegate, by Mr. William Cartwright; Star Inn, in Stonegate, by Mr. Robert Harvey; the White Horse, in Coppergate, by Mrs. E. Roscoa; the White Swan, in Pavement, by Mr. John Hardcastle; the White Swan and Sand-Hill, in Petergate, by Mrs. Ann Watson, &c.

Weekly News Papers — *Monday*, the York Courant, published by Mr. George Peacock, in Coneystreet; *Thursday*, the York Chronicle, by Mr. William Blanchard, in Coppergate; and on *Saturday*, the York Herald, by Mr. Joseph Mawman, in High-Ousegate.

TIMES OF THE SEVERAL POSTS COMING TO, AND
GOING FROM THE CITY OF YORK.

Times of coming in.

Every day—From London, and all parts south of York, about twelve o'clock at night.—N. B. No letters are received from London on *Tuesday*, but letters for all parts on this side thereof, are forwarded as usual.

Every day—From Wetherby, Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Rochdale, Manchester, Liverpool, Skipton, Settle, Kirby-Lonsdale, and Kendal, at half past ten o'clock at night.—Boroughbridge, Catterick, Greta Bridge, Brough, Penrith, Carlisle, Annan, Dumfries, &c. the North of Ireland, and all parts of Westmoreland and Cumberland, at half past twelve o'clock at night.

Every day—From Easingwold, Thirsk, Northallerton, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, Northumberland,

Berwick upon Tweed, Edinburgh, and all parts north of that city, about ten at night.

Every day—From Pocklington, Market-Weighton, Beverley, Hull, Malton, Whitby, and Scarbrough, about nine at night.

Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday—From Helmsley, about seven o'clock at night.

Times of going out.

Every day—For London, and all parts South of York, at twelve at night. — N. B. No letters sent to London on Friday, but letters for all parts on this side thereof, are forwarded as usual.

Every day—For Wetherby, Skipton, Settle, Kirby-Lonsdale, and Kendal, at half past nine on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; the other nights at twelve. — Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Rochdale, Manchester, and Liverpool, at twelve. — Boroughbridge, Catterick, Greta-Bridge, Brough, Penrith, Carlisle, Annan, Dumfries, &c. the North of Ireland, and all parts of Westoreland and Cumberland, every night at nine.

Every day—For Easingwold, Thirsk, Northallerton, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, Northumberland, Berwick upon Tweed, Edinburgh, and all parts North of that city, every night after the arrival of the mail-coach from London.

Every day—For Pocklington, Market-Weighton, Beverley, Hull, Malton, Whitby, and Scarbrough, every night after the arrival of the mail-coach from London.

Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday—For Helmsley at six o'clock in the morning.

The post-office is open until half past ten every night, when letters for all the above places are received; after which the business of the office, from the arrival and departure of the several mails, renders it impossible to take in or deliver letters out before eight in the morning.

A LIST OF MAIL AND OTHER COACHES.

London—*The Royal Mail Coach*—Sets out every night from the York Tavern, at twelve o'clock, to the Bull and Mouth Inn, Bull and Mouth-street.

London

- London Highflyer Coach*—Sets out every morning at five o'clock, from the York Tavern, and arrives at the White-Horse, Fetter-Lane, next day to dinner.
- London New Post Coach, or Mercury, (late Paul Jones)*—Sets out from the Black-Swan, in Coneystreet, every morning at five o'clock, and arrives at the Saracen's-Head, Snow-Hill, next day to dinner.
- Newcastle and Edinburgh Mail*—Every night from the York Tavern, after the arrival of the South Mail.
- Newcastle Light Coach, or Highflyer*—Sets out alternately from the York Tavern and Black-Swan, every morning at five o'clock.
- Hull Mail*—From the York Tavern every night after the arrival of the South Mail.
- Hull Coach*—Sets out every morning at six o'clock, from the York Tavern and White-Horse in Coppergate alternately.
- Hull Coach*—Sets out every afternoon at half past one o'clock, from the Black-Swan, Coneystreet, Sundays excepted.
- Leeds, Birmingham, and Sheffield Light Coach*—Sets out every morning at seven o'clock, from the York Tavern and Black-Swan alternately.
- Leeds Coach*—Sets out every day at two o'clock, from the Black-Swan, Coneystreet.
- Liverpool Royal Mail Coach*—Sets out from the York Tavern immediately after the South Mail.
- Scarborough and Whitby Mail Coach*—Sets out four times a-week to Scarborough, and three to Whitby, after the departure of the South Mail, from the Black-Swan and York Tavern alternately.
- Scarborough Coach*—From the Black-Swan in Coneystreet, every morning at eleven, during the Scarbro' season.
- Harrogate and Knaresbro' Diligence*—Sets out from the White Horse in Coppergate every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at six, during the summer season.

RATES OF CHAIRMEN AND COACHMEN.

CHAIRS.

For every fare from any place within the walls of the city, or liberty of *St. Peter's*, to any place within the same;

London

same; or to or from the Castle of *York*, or from any place without any bar or postern, to any place without the same bar or postern, within the suburbs; or from any place within the walls of the said city or liberty, to any place without any bar or postern; or from any place without any bar or postern, to any place within the said city or liberty, not exceeding half a mile, before ten at night—*Sixpence*.

The same after ten—*One shilling*.

And if any of the fares from the city or liberty into the suburbs, or from the suburbs into the city or liberty, or from any part of the suburbs to any other part of the suburbs, shall exceed half a mile, before ten—*One shilling*.

The same after ten—*One shilling and sixpence*.

For waiting and carrying (including the fare) for the first hour before ten—*One shilling*.

And for every hour after, before ten—*Sixpence*.

And for the first hour after ten—*One shilling and sixpence*.

And for every hour after—*One shilling*.

☞ The chairmen may be obliged to stop as often as the person carried shall require, so as they are not detained above ten minutes in a sixpenny, and twenty minutes in a twelpenny fare.

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COACHES.

The fare of every coach or chaise from any part of the city, suburbs, or liberty, to any part of the same, before ten at night—*One shilling*.

For the like after ten—*One shilling and sixpence*.

For the first hour waiting before ten—*One shilling and sixpence*.

For every hour after, till ten—*One shilling*.

If called into waiting after ten, for the first hour—*Two shillings*.

For every hour after—*One shilling and sixpence*.

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LIST OF CARRIERS.

ABERFORD, Samuel Liversedge, White Horse, Coppergate, comes in Saturday morning, and goes out at two o'clock
Ditto, William Smith, Black Bull, Thursday-Market, Ditto, Ditto
Bridlington, Flambrough, and Kilham, W. Morris & Co. L. Newcomb's, Fossigate, comes in Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday morning, and goes out the same afternoons
Bridlington, F. Whitwill, Fleece, Pavement, comes in Wednesday morning, and goes out the same day at noon
Weighton, Beverley, and Hull, T. Crawford, junior, Black Bull, Thursday-Market, comes in Monday and Thursday, and goes out Tuesday and Friday morning
Boroughbridge, Ripon, and Middleham, John Burnett, George, Cobler-Market, comes in Tuesday and Friday night, and goes out Wednesday and Saturday at eleven o'clock
Coxwold, Wm. Dale, Golden Lion, Thursday-Market, comes in Saturday morning, and goes out at noon
Driffild, Peter Wilson, Horse Shoe, Coppergate, comes in Friday night, and goes out Saturday morning early
Ditto, John Fryer, White Horse, Coppergate, Ditto, Ditto
Easingwold, Durham, Newcastle, and Glasgow, T. Crawford, son, Black Bull, Thursday-Market, comes in Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning, and goes out the same afternoons
Easingwold, George Squire, White Swan, Petergate, comes in Thursday night, and goes out Friday morning
Helmsey, Geo. Newby, Black Bull, Thursday-Market, comes in Monday and Thursday night, goes out Tues. and Friday morning
Howden, Thomas Nutbrown, Robin Hood, Castlegate, comes in Thursday night, and goes out Friday morning
Belperby, William Banks, Sand Hill, Colliergate, comes in Saturday morning, and goes out in the afternoon
Ditto, M. Thornton, Elephant and Castle, Skeldergate, Ditto, Ditto
Knaresbro', Harrogate, and Ripley, W. Yates, Elephant and Castle, Skeldergate, comes in Monday and Thursday night, and goes out Tuesday and Friday noon
Kendal, Bedale, and Askrigg, Wm. Horner, White Swan, Pavement, comes in Wednesday night, goes out Thursday at 2 o'clock
Kirbymoorside, R. Stockton, Fleece, Pavement, comes in Thursday night, and goes out Friday morning early
London—White Bear, Easinghall-street, H. Heaton and J. Jackson, Old Warehouse in Swinegate, comes in Monday and Thursday morning, and goes out Tuesday and Friday noon
Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Liverpool, &c. Mess. Hartley and Co. Horse Shoe, Coppergate, comes in every day (Sundays excepted) and goes out every day at two o'clock
Malton, Ralph Metcalf, White Horse, Coppergate, comes in Monday and Thursday night, and goes out Tuesday and Friday noon
Huddersfield, Manchester, and Liverpool, J. Sweeting, jun. White Horse, Coppergate, comes in Wednesday morn. goes out at 2 o'clock
Ditto, A. Welsh, L. Newcomb's, Fossigate, comes in Wednesday and Friday noon, goes out Wednesday and Saturday at 2 o'clock

LIST

Thirsk, Northallerton, Newcastle, and Carlisle, G. and T. Handley, Horse Shoe, Coppergate, comes in Monday and Friday, and goes out Tuesday and Saturday morning

Nottingham, Wm. Eyre, Three Cups, Fossbridge, comes in and goes out Tuesday and Friday morning

Pontefract, Sheffield, and Birmingham, J. Morley, W. Shaw's, High-Ousegate, comes in Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday night, and goes out Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday morning

Pickering and Whitby, A. Allen, L. Newcomb's Fossgate, comes in Wednesday afternoon, and goes out Thursday noon

Pontefract, Wm. Dawson, Fleece, Pavement, comes in Thursday night, and goes out Friday forenoon

Pocklington, W. Hagyard, Fleece, Pavement, comes in Thursday morning, and goes out the same day at two o'clock

Richmond and Barnardcastle, H. Fisher, Robin Hood, Castlegate, comes in Wednesday night, and goes out Thursday noon

Scarborough and Malton, R. Jefferson, L. Newcomb's, comes in Wednesday and Friday morning, goes out Wed. and Sat. noon

Ditto, G. Burniston, Nag's Head, Fossgate, Ditto, Ditto

Raskelf, G. Harrison, Bay Horse, Skeldergate, comes in Saturday morning, and goes out at noon

Pontefract, Sheffield, and Birmingham, W. Nicholson, L. Newcomb's, Fossgate, comes in Tuesday and Saturday night, and goes out Wednesday and Sunday morning

Skipton, Preston, and Lancaster, E. Brumfit, Elephant and Castle, Skeldergate, comes in Wed. morning, goes out in the afternoon

Stokesley, Yarm, and Guisbro', J. Sweeting, jun. George, Cobler-Market, comes in Wed. morning, goes out Thurs. at 11 o'clock

Thirsk, W. Temple, Bay Horse, Skeldergate, comes in Wednesday and Friday morning, and goes out the same afternoon

Whitby and Staiths, T. Trattles, King's Arms, Fossbridge, comes in Sunday and Wed. morning, goes out Mon. and Thurs. morn.

Wetherby, Ch. Hey, Elephant and Castle, Skeldergate, comes in Tuesday and Friday night, goes out Wednes. and Sat. noon

Ditto, W. Watfon, Fleece, Pavement, comes in Tuesday and Friday morning, and goes out the same days at noon

Newsman, Doncaster, J. Strafford, Black-Bull, Thursday-Market, comes in Sunday night, and goes out Monday morning

Poulterer, Pocklington, R. Walls, Fleece, Pavement, comes in Saturday morning, and goes out in the afternoon

———— Everingham, Thomas Dean, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto

———— Seaton-Ross, Thomas Lund, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto

———— Bealby, George Newby, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto

———— Warter, John Harker, White Horse, Coppergate, comes in Friday night, and goes out Saturday afternoon

———— Market-Weighton, N. Hewison, White Horse, Coppergate, comes in Saturday morning, and goes out in the afternoon

———— Wetwang, John Petch, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto

———— Pocklington, Benjamin Thomas, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto

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